

Export of spices

*305. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the export of spices has declined during the last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost its export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The export earnings from spices have gone up during the last one year, both in rupee and dollar terms. However, there has been a decline in the quantity of spices exported as given below:

Year	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. crores)	Value (US\$)
1998-99(P)	231389	1758.02	419.68
1999- 2000(E)	208825	1861.02	430.20

(P) Provisional (E)

Estimated Source:

Spices Board.

(b) Government encourages export of value added products. Slight fall in quantity of spices exported is on account of the focus on export of value added spices. The value addition offsets the decline in the quantity of spices exported.

(c) Some of the steps taken to enhance exports of spices include:—

(1) Rationalisation of cess on export of spices at a uniform rate of 0.5%.

- (2) Implementation of Brand Promotion schemes like award of "Indian Spices Logo" to exporter of value added spices and the grant of "Spice House Certificate" to exporters of spices in bulk who adhere to quality standards.
- (3) Striving to improve quality of Indian spices and spices products besides making products cost competitive through introduction of improved technology.
- (4) Technology transfer, process upgradation and product development.
- (5) Product diversification by developing new markets, new applications and new brands.
- (6) Developing organic spices and spice products for catering to the niche markets for organic spice products.
- (7) Sending business delegations to develop market for Indian spices.

Influence of monopoly capital in the world

† *306. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that influence of monopoly capital is increasing all over the world after World Trade Organisation (WTO) came into existence;

(b) whether it is also a fact that market of the whole world has come under the control of only two to three companies with regard to most of the products; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking to save the small companies in the country from these giants?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) With increasing globalisation,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.